

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1330836-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 12

Page 19 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 20 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 21 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 22 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 23 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 24 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 25 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 26 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 28 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;
Page 41 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 42 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 43 ~ b6; b7C;

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X Deleted Page(s) X
X No Duplication Fee X
X For this Page X
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Memorandum



b6
b7C

To : SAC 79-1481

Date

6/17/86

From : A/SSA [redacted]

C-20

145-0-10, 53
7-2762-46082
504, 580

Subject :

Unsubs, aka Rainbow Family

145-4039-
146
120
166.0-2

SEOC TF Matter
OO: NY (13Q)

196-560-Sub B -
33-27
" " 1333-253

AUTOMATED SEARCH
DATE 6/25/86

On 6/17/86, SSA [redacted]

JTF-1

advised he was in receipt of information
from SA [redacted] Eire Pa. RA (PG)

who was advised by a local Sheriff that
captioned group (Rainbow Family) is an

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commune type or cult group composed of
hippie-type individuals from the 60's era
who for some reason may be transplanted or
are already in the Eire PA area. It is alleged
that this group has kidnapped/lost
missing children and may have other missing

OPEN (OR REOPEN) CASE
ORIGIN 14600
SUPV [redacted]

DATE 6-18-86
SUCT. C-20

OTA

SERIALIZED FILED

JUL 16 1986

2

children within their commune which is believed to be over 7,000 members.

SA [redacted] also advised that the source of this information apparently is an individual by the name of [redacted]

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[redacted] who represents a organization by the name of [redacted] This group is financed and support by [redacted]

It is believed that [redacted] ~~not~~ lives in the [redacted] section of [redacted] near the [redacted]

In view of the above a 79-New case will be opened.

Memorandum



To

SAC (BG 79-1481)

Date 6/23/86

From : SA

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b7C

Subject :

UNSUBS, aka Rainbow Family;

OO: NY (BG)

Re: NY telcalls to SA [redacted] Erie, PA, RA and
SSA [redacted] JTF-I, NY.

SA [redacted] advised that the "Rainbow Family" was having its annual convention in Warren County, PA from 7/1/86-7/7/86. The "Rainbow Family" is composed of hobos and hippies who live all over the U.S. and meet once a year at a U.S. National Forest. In years past, they have met in West Virginia and last year at the Mark Twain State Park in Missouri. The Pennsylvania State Police will be setting up a command post to handle the 5,000-10,000 people expected to attend this year's event. To date, there is no ^{specific} information to connect

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the [redacted]

to the Rainbow

Family.

[redacted] has requested permission from the Sheriff of Warren Co., PA to attend the Rainbow Family meeting in an undercover capacity [redacted]

[redacted] The Sheriff will be making a telephone call to [redacted] to get background information on [redacted] in an attempt to determine if he is identical to [redacted]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] 1985-1986 for [REDACTED] and
[REDACTED] for [REDACTED] failed to
reveal any information on [REDACTED] phone
[REDACTED]

SSA [REDACTED] advised he has forwarded
teletype requesting [REDACTED] be interviewed
to the BQMRA, on 6/20/86.

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SA [REDACTED] advised he will be able to
interview [REDACTED] in Warren Co., PA, where
he is expected to be on [REDACTED]

FB [REDACTED] indices negative on [REDACTED] and
[REDACTED] and on [REDACTED]

1-145C-4034
1-79-1481



"To some people it is a strange concept to believe what Christ taught, loving and caring for your brothers and sisters, and we try to do that, to live that... The gathering I see as a resistance to the loss of freedom and an affirmation of faith," said Garth, once a member of the Christ Family sect.

Blue said he is "just a roadie, a hobo," who most enjoys riding the rails in the Pacific Northwest. "I was hitchhiking in Arizona in '75 and these people picked me up in a bus and took me to my first gathering, 11 years later here I am. I go every year, he said, noting last year he stopped on his way to the gathering to see his parents in Kansas City, Mo.



Tanzy, Alma and First of the Arrow, work in Earth Mother's kitchen. Alma, a former school teacher, has been living on various communes since 1972. "This is my fifth gathering," she said. "When I went to my first one, I found out I was at home."

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Rainbow People Arrive

(Continued from Page 1A)

gheny National Forest Sheffield District ranger. He said there have always been minor problems in surrounding towns, but nothing serious. "Just the problem you have with any gathering of this size. We are not aware of anything major at all."

Paul Brohn, Allegheny National Forest information supervisor, said the biggest problem has been rumors. "They're just terrible; you hear all sorts of things and there is not an ounce of truth to any of it," Brohn said.

Pennsylvania State Police are not expecting any serious problems either. As a precautionary measure, however, they have established a special command post in the Hearts Content area of the forest.

But one difficulty the Forest Service has faced is that the Rainbow Family is adverse to obtaining a special-use permit for its gathering in the national forest.

"It's our land, so how can they give us permission to use it," Principle said. "When freedom is outlawed, only outlaws will be free. One of the things they revolted against in 1776 was that they weren't allowed to stand in the commons."

Rainbow people are quick to call attention to the First Amendment of the Constitution and the "right of the people to peacefully assemble."

"Since they have a problem with a formal permit, what we are doing is developing a more informal agreement covering all the needs we have and calling it an operating agree-

ment," Schuler said. "So far we are real pleased with how it has gone."

The Rainbow family has no leaders and governs "through consensus and peaceful respect," one member said.

To become a member, all you need to do is "be free," explained Wandering Child.

"You are not a card carrying Rainbow," said T-Om. "Rainbow is a concept. It's freedom. And it can be different for everyone. It's never ending. This is my 13th consecutive gathering and I still don't get it all."

By consensus, there are a few rules concerning the gathering, most of which are outlined in what the Rainbows call "rap 107," explained as basic camp etiquette.

Individual fires are prohibited, the use of money is discouraged, and the use of drugs and alcohol and radios/tape players is frowned upon, according to a pamphlet for the gathering.

At the campsite, however, many jugs of wine were visible, and seldom was one far away from a marijuana joint being passed around. (There is a strong feeling among the Rainbows that marijuana should be legalized). There also were a couple of tape players in sight.

"Our rules aren't rules in the sense people outside need and use rules. Ours are guides we use not to infringe on someone else's karma," said Kendo, a 46-year-old former nurse.

The Rainbows establish communal kitchens, a kid's village, First Aid and health stations, and all the other facilities — albeit primitive — that will be needed. Food is purchased in

bulk to the tune of an estimated one-ton daily of rice, wheat, fresh vegetables and fruit. All of it must be carried by foot for more than a mile from the parking area to the cooking sites.

One kitchen is Earth Mother's, a woman who said she ran a restaurant for 14 years until deciding there was more to life. "I closed the restaurant and I didn't know what was going to happen, but then I met some people on their way to a regional gathering," she said.

Earth Mother now goes from event to event running free kitchens.

Helping her is Alma, who taught for 10 years before dropping out and joining a commune in 1972 when she was 34.

Garth, 43, was spotted seated on a log while sewing and "making something useful out of something somebody else threw away." He said that nearly 10 years ago he gave up "everything I had and began to walk with the Christ Family" (A Christian sect that follows a monastic lifestyle.)

"The brother I was walking with about six years ago said he was headed for the gathering, so I went with him. That was my first," Garth explained. "For the last five years all I've done is go around and rap with people and try to help them reach a higher consciousness, and urge them to go to a gathering. You meet a lot of really neat people, beautiful people at the gatherings. I've met some of the highest beings on the planet at these gatherings."

Like Garth, many of the Rainbows explain the gatherings and their lifestyle in a religious context.

Others, like Roadie and Renegade, are simply enamored with life on the road. In their mid-30s, both said they have been "hobos" most of their adult lives, taking odd jobs and picking fruit to sustain themselves.

The "hobos" would discuss among themselves which cities have the best missions, what the best places are in each city, and even the location of the best dumpsters.

Families at the gathering site talked of traveling across the country every year. Many said they support themselves through their crafts and art work.

A man calling himself Carpenter explained that he and his wife, like others they know, stay at one location during the school year to allow their children to attend school. But the day school lets out, he said, they hit the highway.

Others expected to attend the gathering live a relatively conventional life throughout the year, but return to each of the annual gatherings to stay in touch with the "family," he said.

On the closing day of each annual gathering, a tribal council determines the date and state in which the next gathering will be held. Details of the gathering are later spread by word of mouth and through "Howdy Folks" letters and Rainbow publications.



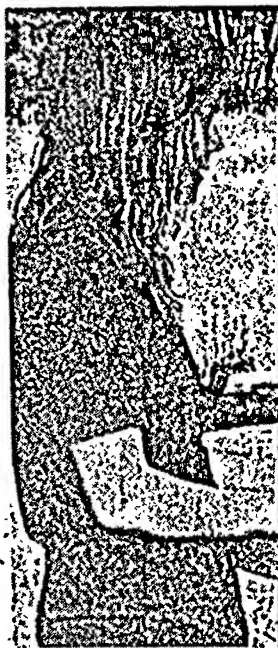
T-Om, 42, said he came to become a member of the Rainbow Family through the hippy movement of the 1960's. "From my perspective, this grew out of that, not necessarily a direct lineage, but from the same flow. But this whole thing goes back centuries, free people have been gathering forever," he said.



The communal kitchens are located miles from a parking area, and food and other supplies must be carried in along forest trails, requiring several rest stops, according to Taj Mahal. "We all help, we all do everything cooperatively," he said.



"To some people it believe what Christ taught your brothers and sisters to live that... The gate to the loss of freedom faith," said Garth, on Family sect.



Tanzy, Alma and teacher, has been ill "When I went to my

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 6/26/86

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (SQ. C-20)
 FROM: SAC, PITTSBURGH (79-⁰~~NEW~~)(SQ. 8)(~~ENC~~)
 SUBJECT: UNSUB;
 MISSING PERSON

Re Telcall from SA [redacted] Brooklyn Queens
 RA to S [redacted] Erie, PA RA, 6/23/86.

Enclosed for New York is a photocopy of a newspaper article from the Times News, Erie, PA Sunday edition, 6/22/86, setting forth background information concerning the Rainbow Family.

On 6/18/86, DONALD ALLEN (NA), Sheriff, Warren County, PA, advised the Rainbow Family is going to be coming to Warren County during the week of 7/1-7/86. There are expected to be between 5,000 and 10,000 people at the Rainbow Family rally, which is held every year in national forest property in different locations around the United States.

Sheriff ALLEN advised on 6/18/86 he received a telephone call from an individual identifying himself as [redacted] telephone [redacted] representing a group known as [redacted] which claims to be interested in locating missing and sexually exploited children. He advised the [redacted] organization is sponsored by [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]

mv② - New York (Enc.)
 1 - Pittsburgh
 WRT/mvw
 (3)

79-1481-4
 SEARCHED INDEXED
 SERIALIZED FILED

JUL 1 1986

Approved: WRG/jg Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

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①, 2

PG 79-NEW

[redacted] told ALLEN he wanted to come to Warren, PA in an undercover capacity in an effort to infiltrate the Rainbow Family for the purpose of [redacted]

[redacted] indicated to ALLEN he was specifically trying [redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] further related his investigation shows a connection between the disappearance of the above [redacted] individuals and the Rainbow Family.

SHERIFF ALLEN was re-contacted on 6/23/86, and advised he had received no further information or contact from [redacted]. Efforts by SA [redacted] to contact [redacted] through a pretext telephone call to the [redacted] number, [redacted] resulted in receiving a recording each time, indicating it was the number for the [redacted]

[redacted]

The above information is being furnished to New York for background information re [redacted]

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Rainbow People Invade Allegheny Forest

By JOHN BARTLETT

Times-News Tri-City Bureau

TIDIOUTE — A pilgrimage is under way.

By gaily painted bus, by battered car and new truck, by thumb and by foot, singly and in groups, thousands from throughout the nation are traveling to a remote location in the Allegheny National Forest for the 15th annual Rainbow Gathering of the Tribes.

An estimated 5,000 to 10,000 people are expected for the July 1-7 celebration being billed for "world peace and healing, communing and sharing."

This rural, mountainous region has probably never seen anything quite like this before, and may never again.

Several hundred members of the Rainbow Family — a group with no leaders, no membership lists, and few

rules — have already arrived, and it's clear these folks are not representative of mainstream, middle-class America.

"To many who don't understand, humanly interested people like us are definitive of the hippie," said Stephen Principle, a member.

From appearances, it is like a time warp to the 1967 Summer of Love and the Age of Aquarius. Long hair, beards, beads, bells, dress styles of every imagination, tattoos, bright multi-colored posters, and peace signs abound.

Most of the members of the family who talked with the *Times-News* do not, or won't, use their given names, instead going by the names they have taken for themselves or have been given over the years.

Some would not allow their pictures to be taken. Their reasons var-

ied, but as one child said, "If you take my picture my soul will not be able to leave the earth until the picture is burned."

As could be expected, the gathering has raised concerns among some residents of the small towns and villages in this pristine and seldom-disturbed area of northwestern Pennsylvania.

The *Warren Times Observer* in an editorial June 18 noted: "From the talk we've heard, some Warren County citizens equate that summer gathering of several thousand kindred spirits of 1960's-era hippies to the concomitant arrival here of hordes of gypsy moths." The editorial said such feelings are "unfair," and noted that so far the situation has been "benign."

The only incident to date, government officials said, was the illegal killing of a bear.

Principle, one of the Rainbow scouts who arrived weeks before the gathering to select a specific site and make necessary arrangements, said the Rainbow Family wants to do nothing that will cause any problems.

"We handle any situations ourselves with our Shanti Sena (peacekeepers). There is no reason anyone should be concerned," he said.

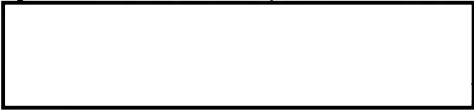
Badger, another of the scouts, said he and others have met with appropriate officials and law enforcement agencies to address their concerns and "work everything out." "We try to allay the fears as much as possible," he said.

And from all accounts, the meetings have gone smoothly. "We have reports from several of their previous gatherings, and all have gone pretty well," said Jim Schuler, Alle-

See RAINBOW, Page 14A



Rainbow Family



Organization

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b7C

79-1481-5

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

2 JUL 01 1985



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JUL 02 1985

AUTOMATED SEARCH
DATE

JUL 02 1985

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79-481-6

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 20 1963	
FBI - BROOKLYN	

NY-34



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to SA [redacted]
File No. 79-1481

Section C-20, BQ MRF
Date 7/9/86

PLEASE SUBMIT IN DUPLICATE

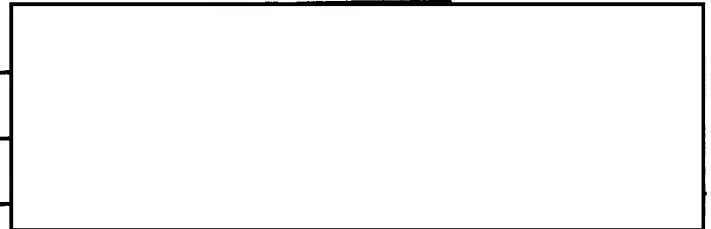


Dear Sir:

In connection with an official investigation being conducted by this office, it is requested that you furnish listings for the following [redacted]



Name/Location



Your personal attention in protecting the confidential nature of our inquiry to this matter is greatly appreciated, and I wish to express my thanks for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

John L. Hogan

JOHN L. HOGAN
Assistant Director in Charge

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b7C
b7D



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

In Reply, Please Refer to SA [redacted]
File No. 79-1481

Section 30, C-20
Date 7/10/86

Honorable Benjamin Ward
Police Commissioner
New York City Police Department
1 Police Plaza
New York, NY 10038

My Dear Commissioner:

It is requested that this office be furnished the criminal record of: (last name followed by given name and middle name)

Name: [redacted]

Also Known As [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

Race: CAUCASIAN

Sex: MALE

Date of Birth [redacted]

Birthplace: _____

Height: 5'11

Weight: _____

Hair: brown

Eyes: _____

Scars, Tattoos, or Marks: _____

Social Security Number: [redacted]

Arrest number or previous arrest: NYSID 48318985

Photographs desired: yes

79-1481-80 (X)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 10 1986	
FBI - BROOKLYN/QUEENS	

Very truly yours,

John L. Hogan
JOHN L. HOGAN
Assistant Director in Charge

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b7C
b7D

FEG:cae

1

BQ 79-1481

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (SA) [redacted] on July 14, 1986:

At Rego Park:

A review of FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) indices references to the RAINBOW Family was conducted. The following files were reviewed and are summarized below:

[redacted] serials 120, and 140.
In August 1983, confidential source information revealed that [redacted] (phonetic) also known as [redacted] (phonetic), was referred to [redacted] RAINBOW Group or RAINBOW Family. [redacted] and [redacted]

BQ 145-0, serials 10, and 53.

In [redacted] [redacted] advised that the RAINBOW Family was involved in the [redacted]

[redacted] RAINBOW Family was described as CHARLES MANSON type cult and individuals associated with it were located at 131 Avenue B, New York, New York. This is the location of EVERYTHING FOR EVERYBODY, phone number [redacted]

BQ 7-2762, serials 460, 504, and 580.

In [redacted] Detective [redacted] MICHIGAN STATE POLICE INTELLIGENCE, Lansing, Michigan, telephone [redacted] had information concerning the RAINBOW Family, also known as ORENA INCORPORATED (serial 580).

In [redacted] also known as [redacted] at one time resided on [redacted] and has an [redacted]

79-1481-79

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 21 1986	
FBI - BROOKLYN/QUEENS	

1

FEG:cae

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BQ 79-1481

[redacted] supposedly places [redacted]
[redacted] He then [redacted]
[redacted]
and [redacted] In the [redacted] a [redacted] indicated
that the RAINBOW Family is an international "outfit" and that
[redacted] is in charge of the [redacted]
[redacted] He indicated that there are annual reunions of the
group and that they are heavily involved in drugs (serial 460).

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b7D

FEG:cae

1

BQ 79-1481

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED]

AT REGO PARK:

SA [REDACTED] ERIE RESIDENT AGENCY telephonically advised that [REDACTED] was in Erie, Pennsylvania this date to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] requested background information on [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] Files. SA [REDACTED] expects to interview [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was found to be identical to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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10.
79-1481-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 22 1985	
FBI - BQ	

FEG:cae
1

BQ 79-1481

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED]

At Rego Park:

SA [REDACTED] FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI), Erie Resident Agency (RA), provided the following information:

On [REDACTED] was stopped by Warren County, Pennsylvania, Sheriff's Deputies at the ALLEGHENY NATIONAL FOREST site of the 1986 Rainbow Family Gathering of the Tribes. [REDACTED] was described as follows:

b6
b7C

Race:
Sex:
Date Of Birth:
Height:
Weight:
Hair:

Social Security
Account Number:

[REDACTED] advised that he is the [REDACTED] Sheriff a [REDACTED] Allen, Warren County, advised SA [REDACTED] that he thought [REDACTED] was

79-1481-11

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 22 1986	
FBI - BROOKLYN/QUEENS	

Memorandum



To :

BQMRA (79-1481) (C)

Date

9/23/86

From :

SA [redacted]

C-20

Subject :

UNSUBS, aka Rainbow Family;
[redacted]

All attempts by SA [redacted] Erie, PA, to locate and interview [redacted]

[redacted] during [redacted] met with negative results. All attempts at locating [redacted] at phone [redacted] have resulted in a tape recorded message for the [redacted]

Information developed by Erie, PA, would suggest that [redacted] is a [redacted]

[redacted] who is attempting to locate [redacted] [redacted] has [redacted] [redacted] Rainbow Family member [redacted]

[redacted] in Erie, PA, [redacted] may be in the Erie, PA, area sometime. [redacted] had been driving a [redacted] license [redacted] Attempts to locate [redacted] at [redacted] have yielded negative results.

It is recommended that this case be administratively closed.

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1-79-1481

FEG:vhc

NY 79-1481

On [redacted] source [redacted] provided the following information to Special Agent [redacted] and Detective [redacted]

[redacted] is thought to be [redacted]

b2
b6
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[redacted] is described as a [redacted]

[redacted] He operates [redacted] and is residing at [redacted]

He is thought to hold a [redacted] from [redacted] and possibly [redacted]

(Handwritten signature)

79-1481-13

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 20 1987	
FBI	

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closed

10/20/86
10/31/86
10/28/86

Date 8/3/86

☐ Birth ☐ Credit ☒ Criminal ☐ Death ☐ INS ☐ Marriage* ☒ Motor Vehicle ☐ Other _____
☐ Driver's License

To RADIO Buded _____

Return to SA [redacted] File number 79-1481

Name and aliases of subject, applicant, or employee, and spouse
[redacted] aka [redacted]

Addresses
Residence [redacted]
Business [redacted]
Former [redacted]
[redacted]

* Date and place of marriage
(if applicable)

Race	Sex	Age	Height	Weight	Hair	Eyes
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]

Birth date [redacted]

Arrest Number [redacted] Fingerprint [redacted] alty [redacted]

Specific information desired (1) [redacted] Social Security Number [redacted]

Results of check (2) [redacted]

* [redacted]

AUTOMATED RECORD

SEARCHED 79-1481-14 INDEXED ac
SERIALIZED 79-1481-14 FILED ac
SEP 6 1986
FBI - BROOKLYN OFFENS

79-1481